PACENET

PHILADELPHIA ATARI USERS' GROUP VOL. 5, NO. 8 AUGUST 1987

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

by Edward J. Wharton

The July meeting was my first as the new SIG leader of the ATARI group. Apparently, we fell victim to the motto: "things don't always go the way you want them to". We didn't have all of the equipment needed to run the demos that were planned for the meeting. So we were unable to do any demonstrations.

Attendance was smaller then normal. But that's understandable as it was a beautiful summer Saturday. However, I feel it was really sparse due to the fact that many members were away on vacations

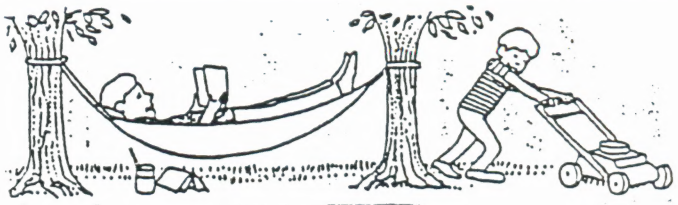
I opened the meeting with a discussion of the group's financial condition. I discussed plans for the future. We talked about getting computer equipment for the group and ways to pay for it. Since that meeting, I was able to purchase an ATARI 800XL for our group with money from ourtreasury.

Speaking of treasury and revenue, we tossed around the idea of a software raffle at the meetings. I like the idea as it would also stimulate software sales and we could ask the "lucky winner" to demo the "prize program" at a later meeting. AND perhaps have the winner write a review for our PACENET. But of course, it would also help to raise money to help our dwindling treasury so that we may be able to purchase the rest of a computer system for the group. However, there is one thing we need: someone to run the raffle. This person/s would sell the tickets at the meetings, as well as buy the prizes. If you would like to volunteer, please see Jay Freedman at the meeting.

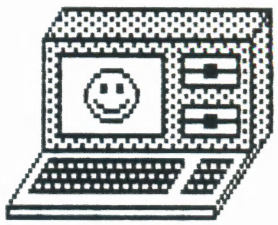
We also discussed ways to make PACS and the PACS ATARI USER'S GROUP more well known. We decided to have fliers printed. These flies will be available at the August meeting. PLEASE take some, and distribute these in your favorite software outlets, schools, and libraries.

Rich and Jay talked about the PACS BBS and all is going very well. An interesting fact was mentioned and that was, "we have one of the busiest SIG's on the board". If you have a modem and have not yet received access to the PACS BBS, see Rich or Jay at the meeting, or call the PACS office. You need to tell them your name and PACS ID number, and a letter will be sent to you telling you the phone numbers and your password.

We would have had a demo of Amodem 7.5 (the newest version of the public domain modem program) but, as I mentioned earlier we were short some equipment. Amodem 7.5 has some very nice features: autodial, micros, advanced xmodem CRC, and Ymodem. Eric Zwirnmann (our librarian) will try again at the August meeting. Copies of Amodem 7.5 for Hayes compatible modems and the 1030/XM301 modems will also be available at that meeting.



HAVE YOU CHECKED THE



HAM & CHIP FESTIVAL?

COMPUTALK TCS

by Ed Wharton

There is a new on-line service available to Atari users. It's called COMPUTALK TCS. COMPUTALK is a Texas based BBS run on 6 Atari 800's linked together. You may have read the review of this service in the July ANTIC magazine. The BBS can be called long distance or through PC-Pursuit.

They are offering our group a special: one month of free access to the system. They are also offering a 6 months on-line rate for only $10.00 (the normal rate is $15.00 for 6 months). This system has been in business for 6 years, with support for both Atari 8-bit and ST computers. It features E-mail, 9 message bases, 9 on-line adventures, user forums, and surveys. If you would like more info you can see Jay Freedman. Jay has more information on this BBS including a special ID number and password so that you can try their system. way to try this If you would like to try this BBS see Jay at the meeting. The ID and password are valid through 9/18/1987.

1987 ATARI USERS' GROUP OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	Ed Wharton	423-6233
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Jay Freedman	657-2369
EDITOR/SECRETARY:	Lucy G. Rhoda	635-1009
DISK LIBRARIAN:	Eric Zwirnmann	342-8263

ADVERTISING RATE:

Do you wish to advertise in our newsletter? We are now going to advertise so that the club can raise more money to cover the cost of printing and mailing the newsletters each month. The rates are as follows:

$20.00	FULL PAGE
10.00	HALF PAGE
4.00	BUSINESS CARD

Call 635-1009 for more information.

OR

Write to: PACENET Advertising
c/o Lucy G. Rhoda
314 S. Sterling Rd.
Elkins Park, PA. 19117

NOTE: The deadline for any ad is the second Saturday of every month in order to be in that month's newsletter. Therefore, the ad is due on September 12, 1987 in order to make the September issue of PACENET.

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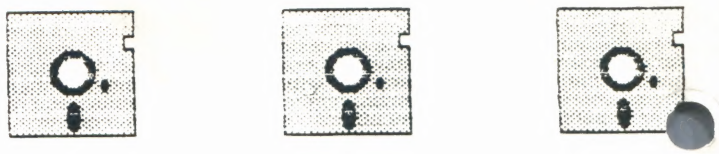


THE ATARI LIBRARY: WHAT'S NEW

by Eric Zwirmann

Well, here it is, the first article from your newest Atari 8-bit Librarian.

First off, I would like to report some good news and some bad news. Most people prefer to hear the bad news first and then the good news to make them feel better!!! The bad news is that the July and August issues of the A.N.A.L.O.G. magazine disk have not arrived yet. Perhaps the heat of the summer sun has delayed its delivery. Or maybe everyone in the mail office went on vacation!! Whatever the case, as soon as they come in, I will inform everyone of its arrival.

Now comes the good news for you all. The good news contains several items of interest. The new disk of the month is a creation of Print Shop disk with graphics on side one. The disk also has some interesting border graphics on side two. Please note that these borrder graphics will only work if you have a version of Print Shop that has been "revised" with Broderbund's Print Shop Companion disk. The original Print Shop will not be able to utilize this disk since it is unable to load the border graphics. No provisions were made on the original Print Shop asking for loading borders or fonts from another disk like it does with the graphic designs. Therefore, you cannot use the neat borders unless you have the PRINT SHOP COMPANION. However, you can still use the graphics on side one of the disk. AND maybe when you someday decide to upgrade your 8-bit computer, you'll be able to purchase the PRINT SHOP COMPANION and utilize all the features it has to offer, as well as those obtained from our ATARI library.

The next item of interest is that there are two new terminal programs available to our members. Amodem 7.5 (for most modem types) and Express! 1030, Version 3.0 (for 1030 and XM301 modems). These two programs are both available on the same disk. However, they are not listed in the libraray catalog because the programs are in the Beta testing and may contain a "bug" or two.

That's all for this month. In the months to come, we will be putting out a new Educational disk and Games disk. Also, if anyone has any programs to donate to the library, we can use them!! We're especially interested in some Print Shop graphics so that I can generate another graphics disk to the library. Please submit them to me. Remember, when you donate a disk, you can obtain a disk of your choice from our library collection FREE.

NEWS AND QUIPS FROM OTHER USERS GROUPS

by Lucy G. Rhoda

I decided to get caught up at this time on my reporting of what I have read from newsletters from other groups. The following tibit is one of many that grabbed my attention. I thought I pass it on to those members who have not try GEnie and have heard about this system at our meetings. I found this in the April issue of MILATARI (Milwaukee Area Atari Users Group) by Ron Friedel.

GEnie

GEnie (The General Electric Network for Information Exchange) is offering a special incentive to user group members if we sign up for GEnie before Dec. 31,1987. The normal $18.00 registration fee is waived. The only fee that will be charged is the normal non-prime time rate of $5.00 per hour of use at either 300 or 1200 baud. For the free sign-up, just follow these three easy steps (make sure to have a major credit card or checking account number handy to set up you personal GEnie account):

1. Set your modem for half duplex (local echo) at 300 or 1200 baud. ASCII translation.

2. Dial (toll free) 1-800-638-8369. Upon connection, enter HHH.

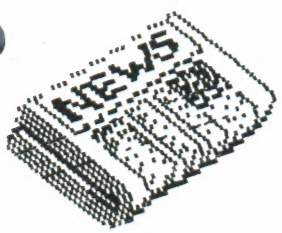
3. At the U#= prompt, enter XJM11887,Atari and press [RETURN].

If you have any problems or need additional assistance, call 1-800-638-9636.

Here's some news that was given to me by Dave Mohnach. He got it from COMMUNICATION BRIEFINGS, "BOARDROOM REPORTS" (July 1, 1987). I'm glad he was able to catch it and pass it on to us.

OLD FLOPPY DISK DANGER!!

Important information stored on floppy disks can be LOST if it isn't copied to another disk at least every 18 months. The TRAP is that the magnetic oxide used to coat these floppy disks begin to deteriorate in two years of less from the time it was applied to the disk. The only alternative to this program is of course to transfer the data to a hard disk that isn't prone to deterioration.

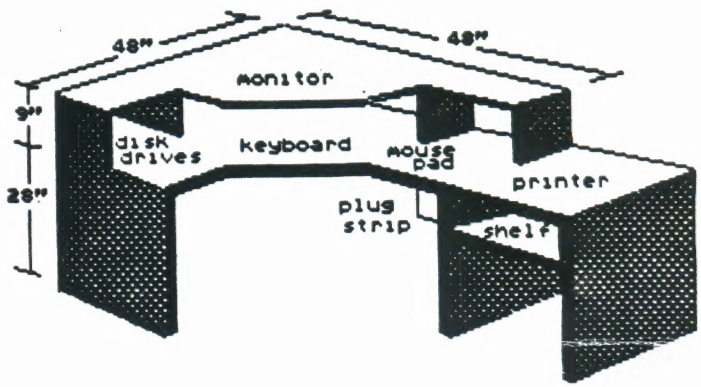


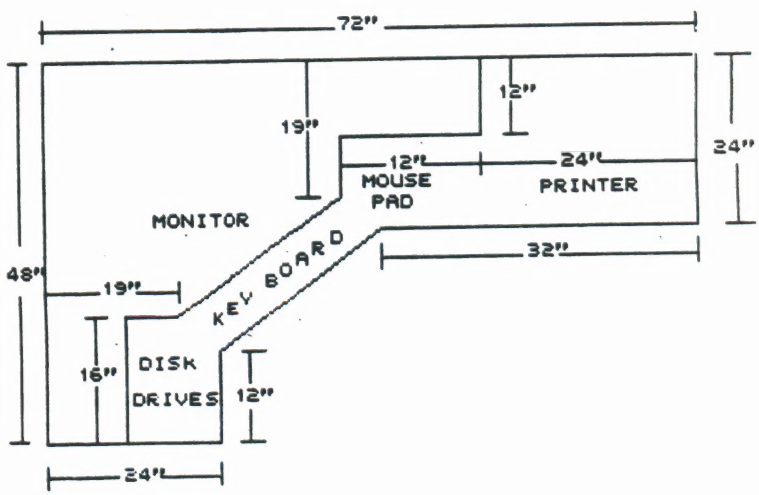
Then there was this article with an idea that I like that I decided to pass it on to you. It has occurred to me that my fellow PACENETTERS might be handy and like working in capentry. This one is from the an issue of JACS (Jersey Atari Computer Society). This author-handyman has given us the "blueprint" for a neat computer center.

COMPUTER CENTER

by Bob Tolbert

Many of you have had a desire to build your own computer center. Well, I have done just that!! You might like to see what is possible, so here is a copy of the plans that I have created using DEGAS ELITE. I hope that you find this design as funtional as I have.





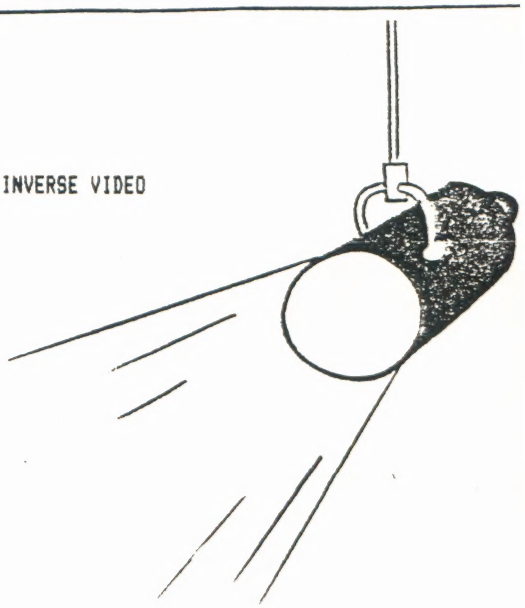
Computer Desk

By Robert Tolbert

WINDFALL

by Dave Mohnach

Here is a short program that I wrote that will determine how long your money will last through the years. For example, if you had a million dollars (everyone's dream!!), this program will let you know the years that it will last to live on that sum. It will tell the principle, yearly interest rate, number of withdrawals per year, and the amount of withdrawals. Remember, the higher the take out or your money will last forever. I have also included a printer option to print out your listing with the years the money will last as well as the money left over each year. Enjoy playing around with this program. It certainly will help you plan your own retirement!!



```
10 REM * WINDFALL.BAS     *
11 REM * APRIL 1987       *
12 REM * BY DAVID MOHNACH *
20 REM
21 REM LINES 165 & 482 EVERYTHING IN "COUNT  MONEY LEFT  YEARS" SHOULD BE INVERSE VIDEO
60 POKE 752,1:REM TURN OFF CURSOR
70 DIM YN$(1),NY$(1)
71 ? CHR$(125):POSITION 8,4:? "   WINDFALL"
72 POSITION 5,6:? "   BY DAVID MOHNACH"
73 POSITION 2,8:? "PRESS 1 TO BEGIN"
74 POSITION 2,10:? "PRESS 2 TO READ DOCUMENTATION"
75 TRAP 75:INPUT CHOICE
76 IF CHOICE<1 OR CHOICE>2 THEN 75
77 IF CHOICE=2 THEN 700
80 ? CHR$(125):REM CLEAR SCREEN:
90 ? :? :? "HOW LONG WILL YOUR MONEY LAST"
95 P=0:COUNT=0:YR=0
110 TRAP 110:? :? "INPUT PRINCIPLE $ ";:INPUT NP:P=NP
120 TRAP 120:? :? "INPUT YEARLY INTEREST RATE % ";:INPUT I
130 ? :? "INPUT (12 OR 24 OR 52) FOR THE NUMBER"
131 ? :? "OF WITHDRAWALS PER YEAR"
132 TRAP 132:INPUT NW:IF NW=12 OR NW=24 OR NW=52 THEN 140
133 IF NW<>12 OR NW<>24 OR NW<>52 THEN 132
140 TRAP 140:? :? "INPUT AMOUNT OF WITHDRAWALS $";:INPUT AW
150 ? CHR$(125):POSITION 5,3:? "CHOICE":POSITION 5,5:? "(1)  SCREEN":POSITION 5,7:? "(2)  PRINTER"
151 TRAP 151:INPUT SC
152 IF SC=2 THEN 458
153 IF SC<1 OR SC>2 THEN 151
154 REM SCREEN ROUTINE
155 ? CHR$(125)
160 X=P+(P*(0.01*I)/NW)-AW
162 IF X>=P THEN 900
164 REM POSITION 1,1:? "COUNT      MONEY LEFT      YEARS"
165 POSITION 1,1:? "COUNT      MONEY LEFT      YEARS"
170 COUNT=COUNT+1:P=X:? COUNT,X,YR
171 IF COUNT=NW THEN YR=YR+1:COUNT=0
172 IF NW=12 THEN MH=COUNT
173 IF NW=24 THEN MH=COUNT/12
174 IF NW=52 THEN MH=INT(COUNT/12)
180 IF X>0 THEN GOTO 160
300 ? CHR$(125)
310 ? "PRINCIPLE $ ";NP
320 ? "YEARLY INTEREST RATE % ";I
330 ? "NUMBER OF WITHDRAWALS ";NW
340 ? "AMOUNT OF WITHDRAWALS $ ";AW
350 ? " YOUR MONEY WILL LAST ";? YR;" YEARS ";MH;" MONTHS "
400 ? :? "DO YOU WANT A PRINT OUT (Y/N)";:INPUT YN$
410 IF YN$="Y" THEN 600
420 ? :? "DO YOU WANT TO CALULATE A NEW FIGURE":? "(Y/N)":INPUT NY$
430 IF NY$="Y" THEN 80
440 ? CHR$(125):? :? "THATS ALL FOR NOW":? "                    BYE":POKE 752,0:REM TURN ON CURSOR
450 END
```

```
458 REM PRINT ROUTINE
459 REM PRINT ROUTINE
460 LPRINT "HOW LONG WILL YOUR MONEY LAST"
461 LPRINT :LPRINT
462 LPRINT "PRINCIPLE $ ";NP
463 LPRINT "YEARLY INTEREST RATE   ";I;" %"
464 LPRINT "NUMBER OF WITHDRAWALS PER YEAR ";NW
465 LPRINT "AMOUNT OF WITHDRAWALS $ ";AW
466 LPRINT :LPRINT
470 LPRINT "YEARS     MONEY LEFT EACH YEAR":LPRINT :LPRINT
475 ? CHR$(125)
480 X=P+(P*(0.01*I)/NW)-AW
481 IF X>=P THEN 950
482 POSITION 1,1:? "COUNT      MONEY LEFT      YEARS"
483 REM POSITION 1,1:? "COUNT      MONEY LEFT      YEARS"
486 COUNT=COUNT+1:P=X:? COUNT,X,YR
500 IF COUNT=NW THEN YR=YR+1
501 IF NW=12 THEN MH=COUNT
502 IF NW=24 THEN MH=COUNT/12
503 IF NW=52 THEN MH=INT(COUNT/12)
504 IF COUNT=NW THEN LPRINT YR,X:COUNT=0
540 IF X>0 THEN 480
550 LPRINT :LPRINT " YOUR MONEY WILL LAST ":LPRINT YR;" YEARS ";MH;" MONTHS":LPRINT :LPRINT
555 LPRINT :LPRINT
560 GOTO 420
600 LPRINT "HOW LONG WILL YOUR MONEY LAST"
610 LPRINT
620 LPRINT "PRINCIPLE $ ";NP
630 LPRINT "YEARLY INTEREST RATE   ";I;" %"
640 LPRINT "NUMBER OF WITHDRAWALS PER YEAR ";NW
650 LPRINT "AMOUNT OF WITHDRAWALS $ ";AW
670 LPRINT :LPRINT " YOUR MONEY WILL LAST ":LPRINT YR;" YEARS ";MH;" MONTHS":LPRINT :LPRINT
680 GOTO 420
700 ? CHR$(125):REM WINDFALL
710 ? "HOW LONG YOUR MONEY WILL LAST":?
720 ? "THIS PROGRAM WILL FIGURE OUT A                WINDFALL"
730 ?
740 ? "LIKE 1 MILLION ($1,000,000) DOLLARS"
750 ? "AND IT WILL LET YOU KNOW THE YEARS"
760 ? "THAT IT WILL LAST TO LIVE ON."
770 ? "YOU'LL TELL IT THE PRINCIPLE"
780 ? "YEARLY INTEREST RATE"
790 ? "NUMBER OF WITHDRAWALS PER YEAR"
800 ? "AMOUNT OF WITHDRAWALS"
810 ? "REMEMBER THE HIGHER THE INTEREST RATE"
820 ? "THE MORE YOU CAN TAKE OUT "
825 ? "OR YOUR MONEY WILL LAST FOREVER."
830 ? "THE SCREEN ROUTINE WILL SHOW"
835 ? "THE ABOVE PLUS OPTION TO PRINT ABOVE"
840 ? "WITH YEARS MONEY WILL LAST."
845 ? "THE PRINTER ROUNTINE WILL SHOW"
850 ? "THE ABOVE PLUS MONEY LEFT EACH YEAR."
855 ? "          BY DAVID MOHNACH"
860 ? :? "PRESS (Y) TO CONTINUE"
870 TRAP 870:INPUT NY$:IF NY$<>"Y" THEN 870:IF NY$="Y" THEN 80
880 GOTO 80
900 ? CHR$(125):POSITION 5,5:? "YOUR MONEY WILL LAST FOR EVER":?
910 ? :? "DO YOU WANT TO CALULATE A NEW FIGURE":? "(Y/N):INPUT NY$"
920 IF NY$="Y" THEN 80
930 GOTO 440
950 LPRINT :LPRINT "YOUR MONEY WILL LAST FOREVER":GOTO 900
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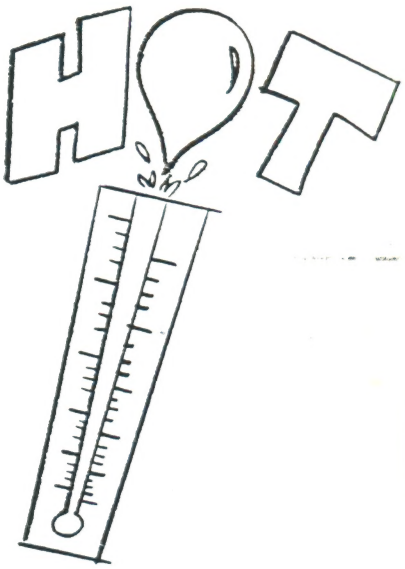

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JACG NEWSLETTER
NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE, EDITOR
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PHILADELPHIA, PA 191
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